



Sidney Job Service Employers' Committee

Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2008

Employers Attending

Cheryl Van Every	Stockman Bank
Zadena Kingland	WORC Program
Lisa Brittingham	Office of Public Assistance
Renee Goss	Sidney Public Library

Job Service Staff Attending

Vernette Torgerson
Kamie Miller
Jacklyn Damm

Minutes from last meeting:

Minutes from the last meeting were approved as stand.

Treasurer's Report

Sharon reported the treasure's report through email: Savings as of 11/30/07 - \$ 609.34
Checking as of 12/27/07 \$5019.50

Guest Speaker

Our guest was Mary Ann Vester from Dawson Community College in Glendive. She shared with us the programs she has available for short term training classes such as Leadership Management, computer training, online "Ed To Go" which can be up to 6 week seminars with 2 classes per week. There are about 300 different courses available in the "Ed To Go" program.

The committee reported there has been an interest in more computer training from basics, advanced and everything in-between. Vernetta reported knowing of several widowed women who have no computer knowledge or skills for finding a job. Cheryl would like to see Insurance trainings being available locally and says there is a great need and feels they would be well attended. It was also mentioned MidRivers has links for online training. Kamie and Vernetta said WIRED and WIA may be able to help job seekers pay for the class fees.

Old Business

JSEC Newsletter Postage: A motion was made by Lisa and seconded by Zadena to pay \$65.60 postage to mail out 160 newsletters. All others will be emailed, faxed or hand delivered.

Other discussion pertaining to the newsletter - Who is receiving the newsletter? Do we want the public in general to receive a newsletter and how would it be distributed? Could there be extra copies in some businesses, or have table tents in restaurants. The information in the newsletter is useful and very important. A suggestion was made to have a monthly press release in the local news paper with articles that have already been written for the newsletter to educate the general public. Vernetta said Human Rights and Wage & Hour may be willing to write articles for us as well.

Chair Person: Vernetta discussed the importance of Sidney JSEC appointing a chair person. JSEC was originally started for employers to bring up issues to Job Service and in turn Job Service reports those needs to the Dept of Labor. We as a committee need to decide if this is of value and want to continue, or if we would choose to disband. Some places in the state have ceased to exist and some have joined forces with their local Chamber. The consensus at the meeting was to continue with our local JSEC. They feel the trainings that JSEC have brought to the community have been very useful and have had great reviews and it is important to continue.

It was suggested to e-mail all JSEC members with a letter attachment and ask them to nominate a chair person. Include list of nominations at the next meeting for the committee to vote on.

Vernetta discussed the need to then move ahead with the process of obtaining either a 501 (c) 3, or a 501 (c) 6. There are some advantages and dis-advantages to each, such as there may not be as many grants available with a (c) 6. Vernetta hopes to find a form that is pretty much a fill in the blank. We may have to talk to a local attorney to complete the process. Our bylaws have been completed and approved so we should have that part of the qualification process completed.

Vernetta also stated we will need a different system for registration fees as we cannot have them coming through our office. Suggestions were to open a post office box, another office handle registration, or have people register for an event but pay at the door.

New Business

Training: Sponsor Human Rights and Wage & Hour – Vernetta asked if the group would like to bring Human Rights and Wage & Hour to Sidney to do training. It is Sidney's turn to host the ABC Clinic, which the Chamber will put on. Wage and Hour and Human Rights present at the ABC Clinic, however, this would not be a direct competition with the Clinic. At another date this would expand on the Human Rights and Wage & Hour portion of that training since each of them only has a short amount of time to present.

Define Membership in JSEC: How do you become a member of JSEC? If you come to a meeting are you automatically a member? Do we need to vote in members? Should there be a membership form to be completed?

How Can We Recruit for New Business: Some ideas that were brought up were to email out open invitation to businesses to join (include an RSVP) Have placemats made up with JSEC information and possibly some sponsor ads to help with the cost. Have the placemats used at local banquets, chamber events, etc. Another idea is to sponsor a table at the Chamber Banquet next year.

Job Service Open House: August will be the 75th Anniversary of Job Service. Vernetta asked the committee members if they would be willing to pay for the food at an open house at Job Service. It was agreed JSEC would host the event and it was discussed to also have it as a membership drive month.

Education Foundation Donation: Vernetta had emailed the committee earlier this month with a request from Education Foundation for a \$150 donation to sponsor their upcoming event. It was decided by the committee to decline at this time since we feel no one really knows who JSEC is and we would like to do more education and membership drives before we make donations in our name.

Action Items for this month:

- ▶ Email Sharon Nelson for a check for \$65.60 for newsletter postage.
- ▶ Write a letter to nominate a chairman including the by laws. Send as an email to local businesses.
- ▶ Email open invitation to businesses to join (include an RSVP)

Next Meeting: February 21, 2008 – Sidney Country Club